



CURE ANNUAL REPORT

CLEAN UP THE RIVER ENVIRONMENT
2012

2012 in Review

2012 was a banner year for CURE. You can say that in our 21st year we stepped out, came of age and really began to solidify the impact that citizen led democratic action can have on a place and a watershed. With a new office in Granite Falls in the KK Berge Building (that we worked for 4 years to save and re-purpose), new staff and a host of new partners, CURE made some amazing things happen in 2012.

Here are some highlights:

1. Duane Ninneman works with citizens of Big Stone County to organize efforts to raise public awareness about Strata Corp's plans to mine and blast rare granite outcrops adjacent to the Big Stone National Wildlife refuge, a bike trail, the Minnesota river and residential homes. CURE's investment of energy combined with the contributions of many others, results in the creation of a township level moratorium that successfully slowed down Strata's plans and brought multi-state wide attention to the issue.

2. CURE's 20th Annual meeting in Montevideo draws more than 300 people. Relationships formed there set in motion a series of interactions with the DNR's Water Trails Program and Natalie Warren of the Hudson Bay Women that will begin to bear fruit in 2013. The DNR plans to hold a 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the State Water Trail in conjunction with CURE's River and History Weekend on May 17, 18 & 19, 2013 and as Natalie Warren's Wild River Academy starts up operations on the Minnesota River in May of 2013.

3. CURE holds an "Open Space" meeting in Granite Falls where the idea to create a disc golf course along the Minnesota River in downtown Granite Falls is born. Granite Falls Riverfront Revitalization (GFRR) president Steve Virnig takes charge and CURE raises funds to support the idea from a Blue Cross Blue Shield Connect for Health Challenge Grant which is used to help fund the development and signage of disc golf courses in Montevideo and Granite Falls.



BOARD of DIRECTORS

Josh Preston, Chair

Marvin Boike, Maynard

Tim Ehling, Montevideo

Shelly Elkington, Montevideo

Troy Goodnough, Morris

Jennifer Hoffman, Montevideo

Martin Moore, Montevideo

Tom Pauling, Montevideo

Jianhua Quian, Montevideo

Rachel Rigenhagen, Appleton

Don Robertson, Sacred Heart

Scott Tedrick, Granite Falls

Dennis Ulrich, Renville

John White, Clara City

Kevin Wulf, Hancock

STAFF

Patrick J. Moore, Executive Director

Patrick@cureriver.org

Duane Ninneman, Climate/Energy Director

Duane@cureriver.org

Dixie Tilden, Office Manager

Dixie@cureriver.org

Sarina Otaibi, Program Coordinator

Sarina@cureriver.org

Peg Furshong, Associate Director

Peg@cureriver.org

IMMERSIONS WITH ISAK



From June 7 through July 26th, you could find Isak Kvam, our summer intern on the river with his “Immersion with Isak” paddling program. Nearly 300 paddlers from ages 12 and up with little or no experience were exposed to the beautiful Chippewa and Minnesota Rivers during his tenure with CURE.

Isak was also responsible for the fleet of vessels we lend and for organizing “No child left inside” events and educational programs.

Isak is a graduate from Yellow Medicine East high school and is studying Environmental Studies and Biology at Luther College in Iowa.



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4. CURE helps to organize a successful "Map Party" in the Le Sueur River Watershed attended by more than 80 people to kick off an effort to bring citizens together to talk about issues facing the water quality of the Le Sueur River Watershed -- which is responsible for a significant amount of sediment and nutrients entering the Minnesota River. CURE's "Friendship Tour" methodology and dialogue process is successful in attracting more than 300 people to take part in pot luck discussions and farm tours over the course of the summer of 2012. From these interactions, CURE helped identify a diverse group of citizens leaders to form a Citizens Advisory Committee that will continue to meet in the winter of 2013 to devise a list of recommendations to move forward.

5. In May of 2012, CURE brings together more than 100 regional leaders for 3 days to take part in an Art of Hosting training session where skills for holding good meetings and conversations that matter are taught and shared. Going outward from this training, dozens of new types of courageous conversations are held using World Cafe, Open Space and Circle Talk meeting methodologies which in turn lead to innovative projects and stronger communities. With the support of Bush Foundation's InCommons Initiative, CURE affirms it's reputation as a trusted convener in the region that can bring diverse viewpoints together to seek common ground.

6. In June of 2012, CURE's summer canoe and kayak intern Isak Kvam begins his Immersion with Isak program which successfully introduces hundreds of people to the Minnesota river through weekly paddling outings. Kvam and Center for Small Towns intern Jodie Roy also play a key role in organizing and setting up for the Montevideo Fiesta Days Tri Festa Race and Celebration which draws hundreds of people to Lagoon Park to celebrate the Chippewa River.

7. CURE hosts three students from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design (MCAD) who for two weeks embed themselves in the community to explore ways that design and arts based

Year in Review

economic development thinking can help the communities of the Upper Minnesota River Watershed attract new businesses and creative entrepreneurs. The immersion experience leads to workshops held for retailers at the Granite Falls Chamber of Commerce and to a signage project that will be completed in 2013. The pilot exchange was deemed successful enough to merit a return visit by a new group of MCAD Students in 2013.

8. In July and August of 2012, CURE social media maven, Sarina Otaibi, records the day-by-day developments that took place with the removal of the low head dam on the Chippewa River in Lagoon Park in Montevideo. Sarina's video clips and photos drive record traffic to CURE's Facebook site, which is fast becoming a primary method for communicating CURE's work to the Next Generation. Brendan Stermer takes Sarina's footage and some of his own to piece together a short video about the dam removal project that garners hundreds of views on CURE's YouTube channel.

9. CURE contracts with artist and organizer Ashley Hanson of Place Based Productions to produce a "Walking Theater" production about the history of the Minnesota River and the community of Granite Falls for the Meander Upper Minnesota River Art Crawl's Opening Night celebration in October 2012. More than 50 volunteers take part in producing the play which is seen by more than 500 people and which receives statewide media coverage on Minnesota Public Radio.

10. CURE's Duane Ninneman takes his Art of Hosting expertise to the issue of renewable energy policy development through a series of listening sessions and policy discussions involving students and leaders from throughout a 5 state area. Because of his facilitation skills and encyclopedic knowledge of renewable energy issues, Ninneman is asked to serve in a leadership capacity in an effort involving more than 90 non-governmental organizations and several funders to advance renewable energy policy movement building in the Upper Midwest.



Year in Review

11. CURE uses its convening and dialogue generating expertise to work with the Chippewa County and the Lac Qui Parle County Historical Societies to host and create a dialogue surrounding the Dakota War and the significance of the Camp Release site in Montevideo. More than 90 people take part in a commemorative walk and world cafe dialogue about the issue.

12. CURE uses dialogue to bring together opposing factions to discuss the issues surrounding the removal of the Minnesota Falls dam by Xcel Energy. In October 2012, more than 65 people take part in the dialogue which leads to greater community wide understanding of the benefits of dam removal to restore river health, address public safety and set the stage for new tourism and economic development tied to the re-exposed rapids on the river.

13. The Obama Administration's Department of Interior staffer Rebecca Wodder pays a visit to CURE's office in the KK Berge Building in Granite Falls to announce the establishment of the National Blueways program. She urges the Minnesota River Watershed Alliance to apply for Blueways status and applauds CURE's leadership in building a model citizen movement over the past 20 years.



NEWS FACES AT CURE



Sarina Otaibi joined the CURE staff in January of 2012. As the Program Coordinator, she helps with the planning and executing of events, documenting our activities as well as manage our social media outreach. She has a master's degree from the University of Maryland, College Park in historic preservation. She and her partner, Tim Beckmann live in Granite Falls in an old church that they are restoring with their dog Duke.



Peg Furshong began her tenure at CURE in August of 2012. As the Associate Director she will work on fundraising, constitute management, office systems and advancing the use of technology. Prior to coming to CURE, she worked in higher education for 22 years in the field of student affairs and most recently at Southwestern Minnesota State University. She lives in Granite Falls with her husband Steve Petrich and their three children.

Awarded at the 2012
Annual Meeting



RiverKeeper

Butch Halterman
John White

Volunteer

Jean Menden

Media

Jon Carlson
John Hickman

Good Government

Senator Gary Kubly

Good Business

Steve Virnig
Steve Lindholm
Granite Falls Bank

Financial Overview

CURE Financial Report 2012

Income

Contracted Work	\$27,500
Member Contributions	32,500
Events	11,500
Grants	672,500
Total Income	\$744,000

Expenses

Staff and Interns	\$193,000
Organizational Expenses	10,000
Core Operations/Office Staff Support	39,000
Building and Property	11,000
Communications	13,000
Professional Fess	6,000
Program Specific	131,000
Operational Expenses	\$403,000

Designated for 2013 Programs \$273,000

Cash Reserves	68,000
Total Expenses	\$744,000

In 2012 **CURE** emerged from several years of belt tightening that resulted in staff furloughs and program constraints. This past year, with increased member support and new commitments from foundation partners, CURE increased the range of work and program delivery on behalf of the mission. At the end of 2012 funds were captured and reserved for work in 2013 and for the first time in many years, money flowed to a cash reserve. CURE exists because of the strong support of its members and its long time foundation partners.

CURE's Budget for 2013 is \$500,000.

Our member contribution goal for 2013 is \$50,000.

Details about CURE's budget may be obtained by contacting Duane Ninneman at the CURE office.

THANK YOU

We are grateful for our membership and the generous support you have given us in 2012.

\$1000 & Above

Lowell & Cay Hellervik
Donna & Nick Krueger
Dennis & Lori Larson
Maureen Laughlin &
Duane Ninneman
Mary & Patrick Moore
Kevin & Annie Wulf

\$500 to \$999

Bill's Supermarket, Montevideo
Suzanne Blue
Geoff & Janet Hathaway
Kevin Hein
Yvonne & Lee Sorenson
Jerry & Dixie Tilden
Dennis & Linda Ulrich

\$250 to \$499

Marv & Judi Boike
Chris & Brenda Domeier
Tim & Shelly Elkington
Kathy Farmer & Tim Lies
Bob & Anne Hartkopf
Jennifer Hoffman
Virginia Homme
Bruce Johnson
Michael Kosowski
Ron Kroese
Gary Kuhn
Dan Kurkiewicz
Sheryl Mann
James & Sydney Masee
Shanai Matteson
Dr. Brad Moseng
Dorothy Rosemeier
Sunny Ruthchild
Steve Thompson
Mary Lou Werner
John White

\$100 to \$249

Ace Hardware, Montevideo
Audrey Amer &
Richard Handeen
Dave & Pam Ameson
Avenues for Care, Montevideo
Merri & Tim Bertrand
Thomas Birkey
Diane Borgendale
Dennis & Deb Brandon
Jay & Merideth Brown
Chad Carson
Tom & Cindy Cherveney
Daniel Conway
Mark Dittrich
Ansel Doll
Debra Lee Fader
Andrew Falk
Annette & Kay Femholz

Brigid Fitzgerald
Glenn Fritsche
Peg Furshong & Steve Petrich
Richard & Mary Fylling
Troy & Jennifer Goodnough
Butch & Esther Halterman, Jr.
Richard Halterman, Sr.
John & Marilyn Handeen
David & Karen Halverson
Joe Hauger
Glen & Jackie Herfurth
Peter L. Johnson
Catherine Jordan & Steve Lick
Cherri & Andy Kahmann
Judith Kammer &
Mark Voorhees
Arne & Athena Kildegaard
Lynn Kolze
Pat Kubly
Scott & Angie Kudelka
Brad Kurtz
Spencer & Peggy Kvam
Jim & Gail LaFave
Gary Lentz
Amanda Mattke
Larkin McPhee
Karen Minge
Scott Moen
Roger Molde
James Moore & Char Zinda
Montevideo Family Dentistry
Craig & Joanie Murphy
Richard Ness & Julie Ahlers
Jon Panzer
Dale & Jo Pederson
Jianhua Qian
Rachel Rigenhagen &
Randy Risch
Edward Schumann
Ingrid Schwingler
Don Sebring
Richard & Julie Shrubbs
Dave Smiglewski
Gene & Helen Stukel
John Tanquist & Colleen Frey
Scott Tedrick
Mark Ten Eyck
Michelle Thelen
Tom Watson
Brian & Janine Wojtalewicz
Greg Wyum
Paul Wymar & Amy Bacigalupo
Jim & Sonja Zenk

\$50 to \$99

Keith & Anita Anderson
Brett Arne
Don Amosti
Alycia Ashburn
Eddie Barrett
Marilyn & Tim Bayerl

Nancy Beasley
Elizabeth Benson
Paul & Barb Benson
Paul Blackburn
Ron Bolduan
George Boody
Chuck & Pat Brown
Glenn & Eunice Buchanan
Brad Burgeson
Drew Campbell
Fred & Doris Cogelow
Jane & Gerald Connell
Andrew Corrigan
David & Patricia Craigmile
Emily Deaver
Martin & Janic Dessureault
Kathy Draeger
Steven & Jennifer Dubois
James & Karen Falk
Bart & Sally Finzel
Dennis & Marj Frederickson
Rachel & Ron Garbe
Larry Gavin
Mary Gillespie & Moe Otaibi
Marcia & Nick Golden
Granite Falls Area
Chamber of Commerce
Dennis & Mary Jane Grebner
Larry Gunderson
Joel Halbritter
Dale Handeen
Alice M. Hanley
Ron Hanson
Steve & Chris Hettig
Anthony & Nancy Hilleren
Nicholas Hofstad
Mary Homan
Douglas Holtquist
Bob Holzheimer, Jr.
Dan & Ruth Jahn
Jake's Pizza of Montevideo
Mark & Kerry Jaspersen
Carrie Jennings
Karyani Karyani &
Dr. Christina Anderson
Peter Kennedy & Teresa Clark
Wendy & Paul Kimmer
Cory & Erin Klumper
Barb & Dwayne Knutsen
Tim & Chrys Kolhei
Bert & Doris Koosmann
Katie Laughlin
Ray & Mavis Lentz
Lynn Mader & Mark Rekow
Tom Mahoney &
Maddy Maxeiner
Margaret Mangan
Margo McCreary
June Meyerhoff & Kurt Amer
Barbara Moore
Ellen Moore & Rick Stermer
Kathy & Kieran Moore
Natasha & Matt Mortenson
Sr. Shirley Mueller
Lou Ann Nagel
Brad Nawrocki
Dean & Jeri Norduane
Steve & Kathy O'Connell
Dick Olson
Bill & Connie Pauling
Keith & Vicki Poier
Julie & Nicole Rath
Franz Albert Richter
Don & Marci Robertson
Margaret Ross
John & Mary Sellner

John & Kathy Skoglund
David & Dawn Sletten
Ken & Anna Smith
Dave & Judy Stendahl
Dan & Maureen Stores
Mark & Celeste Suter
Jessica Tatro
Linda Taylor
Billy & Delores Thompson
Karen Thompson
Ann & Bruce Tiffany
Lyndon Torstenson
Paul Tosto & Marta Cleaveland
Dick Unger & Jane Nord
Curt & Sara Vacek
Jim & Lee Ann VanDerPol
Steve & Linda Virnig
Del & Shirley Wehrspann
Jodie Wehrspann
Tammy Wehrspann
Robert Williamson
Terry & John Wise
Terry Wittnebel
Craig Zempel

\$30 to \$49

Anthony & Felixa Amato
Joe & Catherine Amato
Keith, Mary & Angie Bergo
Amelia Bergquist
Mary Marti Borstad
Ronald & Harriet Burley
Florence Dacey
Matt Dack
Darwin & Lori Dyce
Tammy Edman
Bill & Jackie Eggers
Dan & LuAnne Fondell
Julie Frost & Brian Nerbonne
Steve Gardner
Paul Gervais
Robert Griffiths
Lars Gustafson
Phil Hahn
Malena Handeen &
Mike Jacobs
Mark & Janet Huber
Linda Huseby
Glen Jacobsen
Gene Jeseritz
Randy Krzmarzick
Cheryl Landgren
Brent Larson
Dale Lien
James Mason
Chuck Maynus
Michael Moore
David & Judy Nass
Rodney & Noreen Neville
Stephen O'Neil & Angela Miller
Doug Pederson
Terese & Jerry Perkins
Mary Erler Peters
Brady Russ
John & Lila Salls
Heather & Troy Scott
Brian Skogen
Jake & Cassie Suter
Rebecca Terk
Erik Thompson
Penelope J. Tower
Peter Tuohy
Crystal Turner
Terry VanDerPol
Kenneth & Carrie Wamstad
Chad & Lori Wengert

Naomi Wente
Travis Zachman

Foundations & Granting Partners

Blue Cross Blue Shield
Foundation of Minnesota
Bush Foundation
Kresge Foundation
Lac qui Parle Watershed Project
Land Stewardship Project
McKnight Foundation
Minnesota Department of
Agriculture
Minnesota Historical Society
Minnesota Pollution Control
Agency
Montevideo Noon Lions
The Queenan Foundation
RE AMP

In-kind Goods, Services and Donations

Ace Hardware, Montevideo
Advocate Tribune, Granite Falls
Anonymous ***
Eddie Barrett
DJ's Sporting Goods, Montevideo
Chris Domeier
Earthrise Farm, Madison
Jeremiah Ergen
Penny Elkington
Tim & Shelly Elkington
Falcon Drums, Big Stone City, SD
Kathy Farmer
Fiesta City Liquor Store,
Montevideo
Joe Hauger
Chris & Steve Hettig
Bob Holzheimer Jr.
Virginia Homme
Carrie Jennings
Tom Kalahar
Arne Kildegaard
Athena Kildegaard
Bert Koosmann
Korthius Jewellery
Brad Kurtz
Gary Lentz
James & Sydney Masee
Jean Menden
Moonstone Farm, Montevideo
Patrick Moore
Duane Ninneman
AI Odenthal
Wayne Ostlie
Pastures 'A Plenty, Kerkohoven
Jianhua Quian
Don Robertson
Lee Sorenson
Southwest Airlines
St. James Hotel, Redwing
Tokheim Stoneware
True Value Hardware,
Granite Falls
Ann Wachtler
Natalie Warren & Ann Raiho
John White
Brian Wojtalewicz

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In 2012 we began a formal **CURE Tributes** program where you may remember a loved one who has passed on or honor someone for a life's journey milestone (birth, birthday, graduation, wedding, anniversary, retirement, etc.) For more information about our Tributes program or to obtain envelopes please contact Peg Furshong at the CURE office.

TRIBUTES for 2012

Jay Fier & Lousie Trottier

To honor the wedding of Mick & Betsy Moore

Furshong & Petrich Family

In Memory of Lisa Pena

Susan Redman & Scott Nagel

To honor the engagement of John White & Rebecca Terk

**** If you believe that we have made a mistake in your giving history for 2012 please contact us so that we can resolve this issue. It is important to us that we honor all our member support. peg@cureriver.org*

Water is the most critical resource issue of our lifetime and our children's lifetime. The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land.

- Luna Leopold



THE MINNESOTA RIVER:
FLOAT IT FISH IT FIX IT

Clean Up the River Environment

117 South First Street

Montevideo, Minnesota 56265

320-269-2984

www.cureriver.org